

39:3-76.5

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

(Motorcycles -- Handholds not required if Federal regulations complied with)

HJSA 39:3-76.5

LAWS OF 1979

CHAPTER 57

Bill No. A483

Sponsor(s) Froude

Date Introduced Pre-filed

Committee: Assembly Transportation & Communications

Senate Law, Public Safety and Defense

Amended during passage XXX No

Date of Passage: Assembly May 15, 1978

Senate February 22, 1979

Date of approval March 27, 1979

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement	Yes	XX
Committee Statement: Assembly	XXX	No
Senate	Yes	XX
Fiscal Note	XXX	No
Veto Message	XXX	No
Message on signing	Yes	XX

Following were printed:

Reports	XXX	No
Hearings	XXX	No

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ASSEMBLY, No. 483

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1978 SESSION

By Assemblyman FROUDE

AN ACT to amend "An act concerning the operation and inspection of motorcycles, requiring certain equipment for motorcycles and motorcycle operators and passengers, and amending section 39:8-1 and supplementing chapter 3 of Title 39, of the Revised Statutes," approved December 5, 1967 (P. L. 1967, c. 237).

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
2 *of New Jersey:*

1 1. Section 4 of P. L. 1967, c. 237 (C. 39:3-76.5) is amended to
2 read as follows:

3 4. A person operating a motorcycle shall ride only upon the
4 permanent and regular seat attached thereto, and such operator
5 shall not carry any other person nor shall any other person ride on
6 a motorcycle unless such motorcycle is designed to carry more than
7 one person, in which event a passenger may ride upon the per-
8 manent and regular seat if designed for 2 persons, or upon another
9 seat firmly attached to the rear or side of the operator.

10 Motorcycles designed to carry more than one person shall be
11 equipped with adequate **[hand holds and]** footrests for each pas-
12 senger. Seats**[, hand holds]** and footrests shall be of a type
13 approved by the director. *Handholds shall be required only in so*
14 *far as they are necessary to comply with Federal regulations.*

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

The purpose of this bill is to eliminate the requirement for handholds on motorcycles if the manufacturer of the motorcycle has conformed to all Federal regulations regarding the manufacture of the motorcycle.

Reasons for eliminating the handhold strap across the seat on motorcycles are as follows:

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

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SENATE LAW, PUBLIC SAFETY AND DEFENSE
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 483

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 30, 1979

This bill would eliminate the present requirement for hand holds on motorcycles if the manufacturer has complied with all federal regulations regarding manufacture. The Division of Motor Vehicles indicated their support of the bill.

MARCH 27, 1979

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KATHRYN FORSTH

Governor Brendan Byrne today signed into law the following bills:

S-285, sponsored by Senator John Ewing (R-Somerset) which increases the maximum fine which can be imposed on persons refusing to obey fire police at a fire or fire drill.

The bill increases the fine from \$10 to \$200.

Fire police are appointed by volunteer fire companies to perform certain police duties at fires and fire drills under the supervision of the fire officer in charge. Their authority may not supersede that of a duly authorized police officer.

A-483, sponsored by Assemblyman John H. Froude (D-Middlesex) which eliminates the requirement of hand-holds on motorcycle seats designed to carry more than one person, except in instances where hand-holds are necessary to comply with federal regulations.

When the law requiring hand-holds was enacted in 1967, it was believed that they were an added safety feature; but since then, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has declared that hand-holds on motorcycles are not necessary.

A-569, sponsored by Assemblyman James J. Barry, Jr. (R-Morris) which grants marine patrolmen in the Department of Environmental Protection the same authority and enforcement powers operating on frozen lakes, ponds, bays and other waters as they currently have over power vessels and other marine craft operating in non-frozen waters.

A-604, sponsored by Assemblywoman Jane Burgio (R-Essex) which authorizes counties and municipalities to establish the position of local historian.

The historian will serve without compensation at the pleasure of the governing body of the county or municipality, but can be reimbursed, through an approved county or municipal appropriation, for any expenses incurred while performing his duties.

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